

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 00817 190608Z
ACTION EA-12

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6254

CNO WASHDC

INFO DASD (I&H) WASHDC

NAVFACENGCOM WASHDC

PACNAVFACENGCOM PEARL HARBOR HAWAII

CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HAWAII

NAVMEDRSCHDEV COM BETHESDA MARYLAND

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

UNCLAS JAKARTA 0817

TAIPEI FOR NAMRU-2

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: AFSP, MORG

SUBJ: SUPPORT FOR NAMRU-2

1. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT THE HELPFUL CURRENTLY APPROVED
MISSION OF NAMRU-2 WILL BE JEOPARDIZED BY OUR OWN BUREAUCRACY
IF ACTION AT A HIGH LEVEL IS NOT PURSUED.

2. INDONESIA HAS EXPERIENCED THE RAMPANT
INFLATION SUFFERED IN RECENT YEARS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.
HOUSING COSTS HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY HARD HIT WITH RENTAL
RATES GOING FROM ABOUT \$400 PER UNIT PER MONTH IN 1972 TO
OVER \$1200 IN 1975 AND NOW LEVELING OFF AT ABOUT \$950 PER
MONTH. TO ELIMINATE COMPETITION AMONG THE US AGENCIES FOR
THE FEW UNITS ADEQUATE FOR AMERICAN OCCUPANCY, THE EMBASSY
ESTABLISHED A HOUSING POOL MANAGED BY A HOUSING BOARD
COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 10 AMERICAN AGENCIES
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OPERATING IN THIS AREA. INCLUDED IS THE NAVAL MEDICAL
RESEARCH UNIT-2 DETACHMENT, JAKARTA WITH A CURRENT
STRENGTH OF SEVEN PERSONNEL AND AUTHORIZATION TO IN-
CREASE TO A TOTAL OF 10 US MILITARY AND CIVILIAN PER-
SONNEL OF WHICH ONE POSITION IS PRESENTLY UNASSIGNED.

3. UNDER THE HOUSING POOL CONCEPT, US PERSONNEL ARE

ASSIGNED TO HOUSING UNITS ACCORDING TO THEIR FAMILY NEEDS. THE PARENT AGENCY IS BILLED FOR A NUMBER OF LEASES EQUAL TO THE NUMBER OF UNITS OCCUPIED. UNDER THE INDONESIAN CUSTOM OF FIVE-YEAR LEASES WITH TOTAL PAYMENT DUE AT THE TIME LEASE IS EXECUTED, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO GUARANTEE THAT A MEMBER WILL BE ASSIGNED TO A PARTICULAR HOUSE FOR WHICH HIS PARENT AGENCY IS PAYING THE LEASE. THIS FACT WAS RECOGNIZED BY THE DASO (I&H) MEMO OF 25 APRIL 1972 SIGNED BY MR. EDWARD J. SHERIDAN, AUTHORIZING THE NAVY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT HOUSING POOL. HOWEVER, THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS NOW BEEN INFORMED THAT DOD HAS DIRECTED THAT THE NAVY MAY NO LONGER PAY THE LEASE COST FOR ANY UNIT IN JAKARTA UNLESS A NAMRU-2 DET. MEMBER RESIDES IN THE UNIT COVERED BY THAT PARTICULAR LEASE.

4. ALL HOUSING IN JAKARTA IS LEASED UNDER STATE DEPARTMENT CRITERIA. THE NAVY HAS NOW BEEN INFORMED THAT ONLY FIVE HOUSING UNITS IN JAKARTA MAY EXCEED THE DOD STATUTORY LIMIT OF \$760 PER UNIT PER MONTH. THIS LIMITS THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S CAPABILITY TO FULLY SUPPORT THE NAMRU-2 DET. SINCE HOUSING UNITS WITHIN THAT CRITERIA ARE GENERALLY NOT SUITABLE FOR OCCUPANCY BY US PERSONNEL. SINCE TWO MEMBERS ARE RESIDING IN UNITS PROVIDED BY THE INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT AND ONE MEMBER IS A BACHELOR, THERE IS A CURRENT REQUIREMENT FOR SIX HIGH COST WAIVERS.

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5. WHILE ACCOMPLISHING THEIR MISSION, THE PERSONNEL OF THE NAMRU-2 DETACHMENT ARE CONDUCTING A HIGHLY VISIBLE PROGRAM WHICH IS GREATLY ENHANCING THE US PRESTIGE IN THIS AREA OF THE WORLD. THE COMPETENCE AND DEDICATION OF THEIR PERSONNEL ARE RECOGNIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND CIVILIAN SECTORS. IT WOULD DAMAGE THE INTERNATIONAL IMAGE OF THE US IF THE CAPABILITY OF THE NAMRU-2 DETACHMENT HAD TO BE CURTAILED BECAUSE OF FAILURE TO PROVIDE HOUSING FOR ITS STAFF. ONE IMPORTANT NEW STAFF MEMBER IS PRESENTLY BEING DELAYED INDEFINITELY AT TAIPEI BECAUSE HOUSING IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR HIM.

6. WE RECOMMEND THAT THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS WORK WITH THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE TO OBTAIN AUTHORITY TO REIMBURSE THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR FAMILY HOUSING LEASING COSTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE DEPARTMENT CRITERIA OR PROVIDE SUFFICIENT HIGH COST WAIVERS SO THAT PERSONNEL OF THE DETACHMENT CAN BE HOUSED AND ALL MEMBERS BROUGHT ON BOARD.

7. THE EMBASSY, THROUGH THE HOUSING BOARD, WILL ENSURE THAT ALL HOUSING PROCURED FOR US PERSONNEL IN THE JAKARTA

AREA WILL BE SAFE AND ADEQUATE WITHOUT ANY OSTENTATIOUS
AMENITIES AND WILL BE ASSIGNED IN AN EQUITABLE MANNER IN
ACCORDANCE TO FAMILY SIZE AND COMPOSITION REQUIREMENTS.

MASTERS

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